## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-07** 

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 /086 W ...... 050250

R 171532Z MAR 76 FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3485 INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

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EO 11652: N/A TAGS: ENRG, ML

SUBJ: STATUS OF U.S. PETROLEUM EXPLORATION IN MALI

1. IN EARLY JAN AND MID-MAR 1976, MURPHY OIL COMPANY REPS VISITED BAMAKO TO DISCUSS ITS PETROLEUM EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION PERMIT WITH GRM OFFICIALS. THAT PERMIT, GRANTED IN OCT 1973, COVERS AN AREA (GAO GRABEN) OF 16,250 SQUARE KILOMETERS NORTH AND NORTH-EAST OF GAO. THE MURPHY OFFICIALS TOLD EMBASSY THAT COMPANY, WHICH HAS ALREADY CONDUCTED EXPLORATION ACTIVITY IN THE AREA, PLANS TO BRING IN ANOTHER EXPLORATION TEAM WITH EQUIPMENT FROM CHAD IN LATE 1976 OR EARLY 1977. 4-5 MONTHS WORK IS ANTICIPATED. IF THE RESULTS SUPPORT THE ENCOURAGING EARLIER FINDINGS, MURPHY REPS BELIEVE COMPANY WILL PROCEED DRILL AT LEAST ONE WELL SHORTLY AFTER. WHILE MURPHY IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF OIL WILL BE FOUND FOR EXPORTATION (FINDINGS SO FAR DO NOT PRECLUDE), THEY ARE OPTIMISTIC THAT ENOUGH WILL BE FOUND FOR REGIONAL PROCESSING (SMALL REFINERY, POSSIBLE SECONDARY FERTILIZER SCHEME, ETC.). MURPHY IS SEEKING ANOTHER PARTNER FOR MALIAN PROJECT, PRIOR TO RESUMPTION OF EXPLORATION ACTIVITY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND IS NEGOTIATING WITH SEVERAL U.S. AND EUROPEAN COMPANIES

TO THAT END.

2. SUN OIL HAS PERMIT AREA ADJACENT TO AND EAST OF MURPHY PERMIT. MURPHY REPS BELIEVE INITIAL SUN SURVEY ACTIVITY PRODUCED SUFFICIENTLY ENCOURAGING RESULTS TO WARRANT FURTHER EXPLORATION BUT KNOW OF NO CURRENT SUN ACTIVITY IN MALI. MCGUIRE

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PETROLEUM, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, INVESTMENT PROGRAMS

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